Arising To Teach

A booklet for those taking part in the teaching phase of the cycles of growth

"Of all the gifts of God the greatest is the gift of Teaching."

- Abdul-Baha

Prepared by the Regional Baha'i Council of UP, Delhi and UA.

Dear Baha'i friends,

As you are aware in the current five year plan the Baha'is of the world have embarked on a spiritual enterprise. We have been given the goal of spiritualizing the masses of humanity. The cornerstone of this enterprise is teaching the Cause.

Since we are the ones who have to 'enlighten new souls', 'confirm them', 'heal the wounded and the weary upon the road of life', and give them to quaff from the chalice of everlasting life through the knowledge of the Manifestation of God in His Day... We have to make sure we realize the importance of the work we are doing.

As we embark on our mission to invite seekers to accept the Faith in the teaching phase, the R. B. C. thought it necessary to make a small compilation of prayers and quotations for our perusal during this period.

We would like to request all those taking part in the teaching phase to, daily, say the Tablet of Ahmad given in the beginning of the booklet for the success of our endeavours. We would also like to request you to say the other prayers for teaching.

The quotations are to be studied every day during the teaching phase.

We wish you all the success in your efforts to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.

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Tablet of Ahmad

He is the King, the All-Knowing, the Wise! Lo, the Nightingale of Paradise singeth upon the twigs of the Trees of Eternity, with holy and sweet melodies, proclaiming to the sincere ones the glad tidings of the nearness of God, calling the believers in the Divine Unity to the court of the Presence of the Generous One, informing the severed ones of the message which hath been revealed by God, the King, the Glorious, the Peerless, guiding the lovers to the seat of sanctity and to this resplendent Beauty.

Verily this is that Most Great Beauty, foretold in the Books of the Messengers, through Whom truth shall be distinguished from error and the wisdom of every command shall be tested. Verily He is the Tree of Life that bringeth forth the fruits of God, the Exalted, the Powerful, the Great.

O Ahmad! Bear thou witness that verily He is God and there is no God but Him, the King, the Protector, the Incomparable, the Omnipotent. And that the One Whom He hath sent forth by the name of Ali [1] was the true One from God, to Whose commands we are all conforming.

Say: O people be obedient to the ordinances of God, which have been enjoined in the Bayan by the Glorious, the Wise One. Verily He is the King of the Messengers and His book is the Mother Book did ye but

Prayers For Teaching

I beseech Thee, O my God by the Thee, by Thy Name which none hath befittingly recognized, and whose import no soul hath fathomed; I beseech Thee, by Him Who is the Fountainhead of Thy Revelation and the Dayspring of Thy signs, to make my

know.

Thus doth the Nightingale utter His call unto you from this prison. He hath but to deliver this clear message. Whosoever desireth, let him turn aside from this counsel and whosoever desireth let him choose the path to his Lord.

O people, if ye deny these verses, by what proof have ye believed in God? Produce it, O assemblage of false ones.

Nay, by the One in Whose hand is my soul, they are not, and never shall be able to do this, even should they combine to assist one another.

O Ahmad! Forget not My bounties while I am absent. Remember My days during thy days, and My distress and banishment in this remote prison. And be thou so steadfast in My love that thy heart shall not waver, even if the swords of the enemies rain blows upon thee and all the heavens and the earth arise against thee.

Be thou as a flame of fire to My enemies and a river of life eternal to My loved ones, and be not of those who doubt.

And if thou art overtaken by affliction in My path, or degradation for My sake, be not thou troubled thereby.

Rely upon God, thy God and the Lord of thy fathers. For the people are wandering in the paths of delusion, bereft of discernment to see God with their own eyes, or hear His Melody with their own ears. Thus have We found them, as thou also dost witness.

Thus have their superstitions become veils between them and their own hearts and kept them from

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[*1 The Bab*]

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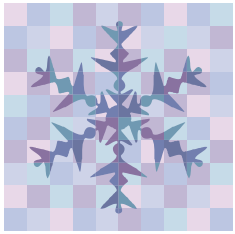
Quotations for Study and Reflection during the teaching phase

Day 1

Say: O people of God! That which can insure the victory of Him Who is the Eternal Truth, His hosts and helpers on earth, have been set down in the sacred Books and Scriptures, and are as clear and manifest as the sun. These hosts are such righteous deeds, such conduct and character, as are acceptable in His sight. Whoso ariseth, in this Day, to aid Our Cause, and summoneth to his assistance the hosts of a praiseworthy character and upright conduct, the influence from such an action will, most certainly, be diffused throughout the whole world."

_ Baha'u'llah



"Your aim is the redemption of mankind from its godlessness, its ignorance, its confusion and conflict. You will succeed, as those before you succeeded, by sacrifice to the Cause of God. The deeds and services required of you now, will shine in the future, even as those of your spiritual predecessors shine today and will forever shine in the annals of the Cause."

(Compilations, Victory Promises, p. 24)

Day 2

O ye believers of God! Do ye not look upon the smallness of your number and the multitudes of the nations. Five grains of wheat will be endued with heavenly blessing, whereas a thousand tons of tares will yield no results or effect. One fruitful tree will be conducive to the life of society, whereas a thousand forests of wild trees offer no fruits. The plain is covered with pebbles, but precious stones are rare. One pearl is better than a thousand wildernesses of sand, especially this pearl of great price, which is endowed with divine blessing. Ere long thousands of other pearls will be born from it. When that pearl associates and becomes the intimate of the pebbles, they also all change into pearls.

-Abdul-Baha

"...we must seize the opportunities of the hour, and go forward confident that all things are within His mighty grasp and that, if we but play our part, total and unconditional victory will inevitably be ours."

- Shoghi Effendi

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Day 3

"There is no refuge in the world today except the Cause of Baha'u'llah. The believers must rest assured that, having the Faith, they have everything. They must place their lives in the Hand of God, and, confident of His mercy and protection, go on teaching the Cause and serving it."

-Shoghi Effendi

"...the confirmations of the Holy Spirit are descending in great torrents upon those who arise to teach."

-Shoghi Effendi

"O Friends! You must all be so ablaze in this day with the fire of the love of God that the heat thereof may be manifest in all your veins, your limbs and members of your body, and the peoples of the world may be ignited by this heat and turn to the horizon of the Beloved."

-Baha'u'llah

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Day 4

"O thou maid-servant of God! Whenever thou art intending to deliver a speech, turn thy face toward the Kingdom of Abha and, with a heart detached, begin to talk. The breaths of the Holy Spirit will assist thee."

-Abdu'l-Baha

"By the Lord of the Kingdom! If one arise to promote the Word of God with a pure heart, overflowing with the love of God and severed from the world, the Lord of Hosts will assist him with such a power as will penetrate the core of the existent beings."

-Abdu'l-Baha

"Speak, therefore; speak out with great courage at every meeting. When you are about to begin your address, turn first to Baha'u'llah, and ask for the confirmations of the Holy Spirit, then open your lips and say whatever is suggested to your heart; this, however, with the utmost courage, dignity and conviction."

- 'Abdu'l-Baha

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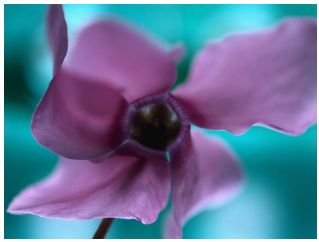
Day 5

"The teacher, when teaching, must be himself fully enkindled, so that his utterance, like unto a flame of fire, may exert influence and consume the veil of self and passion. He must also be utterly humble and lowly, so that others may be edified and be totally self-effaced and evanescent so that he may teach with the melody of the Concourse of high -- otherwise his teaching will have no effect."

- Abdul-Baha



If ye obey Me you will see that which We have promised you, and I will make you the friends of My Soul in the realm of My Greatness and the Companions of My Beauty in the heaven of My Might forever."

-Baha'u'llah

(Compilations, Quickeners of Mankind, p. 65)

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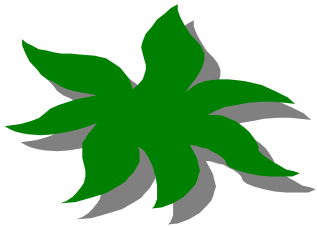
Day 6

When the friends do not endeavor to spread the message, they fail to remember God befittingly, and will not witness the tokens of assistance and confirmation from the Abha Kingdom nor comprehend the divine mysteries. However, when the tongue of the teacher is engaged in teaching, he will naturally himself be stimulated, will become a magnet attracting the divine aid and bounty of the Kingdom, and will be like unto the bird at the hour of dawn, which itself becometh exhilarated by its own singing, its warbling and its melody.

- Abdul-Baha



"Verily, the perfect and divine power will breathe in you with the bounties from the Holy Spirit and enable you to accomplish a thing the like of which hath never been seen by the eye of existence."

(Compilations, Victory Promises, p. 13)

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Day 7

"...The individual alone must assess its character, consult his conscience, prayerfully consider all its aspects, manfully struggle against the natural inertia that weighs him down in his effort to arise, shed, heroically and irrevocably, the trivial and superfluous attachments which hold him back, empty himself of every thought that may tend to obstruct his path, mix, in obedience to the counsels of the Author of His Faith, and in imitation of the One Who is its true Exemplar, with men and women, in all walks of life, seek to touch their hearts, through the distinction which characterizes his thoughts, his words and his acts, and win them over tactfully, lovingly, prayerfully and persistently, to the Faith he himself has espoused."

-Shoghi Effendi

"The greater your handicaps the firmer your determination should wax, and the more abundant will assuredly be the blessings and confirmations of Baha'u'llah."

-Shoghi Effendi

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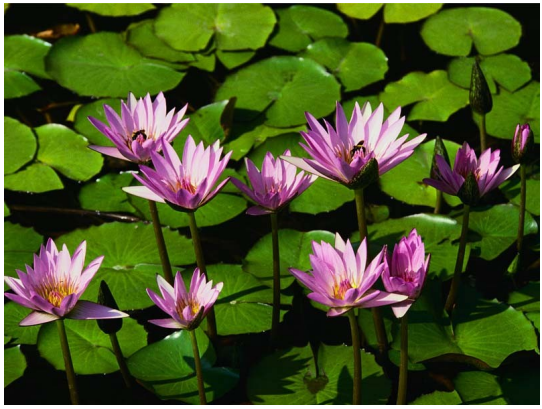
Day 8

Should anyone arise for the triumph of our Cause, him will God render victorious though tens of thousands of enemies be leagued against him. And if his love for Me wax stronger, God will establish his ascendancy over all the powers of earth and heaven. Thus have We breathed the spirit of power into all regions."

-Baha'u'llah



"An humble man without learning, but filled with the Holy Spirit, is more powerful than the most profound scholar without that inspiration."

- Abdul-Baha

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Day 9

The harder you strive to attain your goal, the greater will be the confirmations of Bahá'u'lláh, and the more certain you can feel to attain success.

Be cheerful, therefore, and exert yourself with full faith and confidence. For Bahá'u'lláh has promised His Divine assistance to everyone who arises with a pure and detached heart to spread His holy Word, even though he may be bereft of every human knowledge and capacity, and notwithstanding the forces of darkness and of opposition which may be arrayed against him.

The goal is clear, the path safe and certain, and the assurances of Bahá'u'lláh as to the eventual success of our efforts quite emphatic. Let us keep firm, and whole-heartedly carry on the great work which He has entrusted into our hands."

-Shoghi Effendi

"O my beloved! if thou didst know what God had ordained for thee, thou wouldst fly with delight and thy happiness, gladness and joy would increase every hour."

-Abdul-Baha

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Day 10

"The believers ought to give the Message even to those who do not seem to be ready for it, because they can never judge the real extent to which the Word of God can influence the hearts and minds of the people, even those who appear to lack any power of receptivity to the Teachings."

-Shoghi Effendi

"The Lord of Hosts, the King of Kings, has pledged unfailing aid to every crusader battling for His Cause. Invisible battalions are mustered, rank upon rank, ready to pour forth reinforcements from on high."

- Shoghi Effendi

"Say, verily any one follower of this Faith can, by the leave of God, prevail over all who dwell in heaven and earth . . . Therefore fear ye not, neither be ye grieved."

-The Bab

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Day 11

"Today the need is so great on the part of humanity to hear of the Divine Message, that the believers must plunge into the work, wherever and however they can, heedless of their own shortcomings, but ever heedful of the crying need of their fellow-men to hear of the teachings in their darkest hour of travail."

- Shoghi Effendi

our Faith is not that people with unique abilities do the work of the Cause, but that it is done by the sacrifice of loving and devoted souls who arise selflessly to undertake work they feel themselves incompetent, sometimes, to achieve. God works through them and endows them with gifts they did not dream they could ever possess."

- Shoghi Effendi

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Day 12

"...when we put our trust in Him, Bahá'u'lláh solves our problems and opens the way."

- Shoghi Effendi

The Bahá'ís are the leaven of God, which must leaven the lump of their nation. In direct ratio to their success will be the protection vouchsafed, not only to them but to their country. These are the immutable laws of God, from which there is no escape: 'for unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.'"

-Shoghi Effendi

It is better to guide one soul than to possess all that is on earth, for as long as that guided soul is under the shadow of the Tree of Divine Unity, he and the one who hath guided him will both be recipients of God's tender mercy, whereas possession of earthly things will cease at the time of death. The path to guidance is one of love and compassion,

-The Bab

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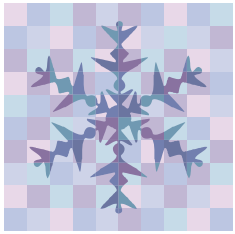
Day 13

"All the Bahá'ís, new and old alike, should devote themselves as much as possible to teaching the Faith; they should also realize that the atmosphere of true love and unity which they manifest within the Bahá'í Community will directly affect the public, and be the greatest magnet for attracting people to the Faith and confirming them."

-Shoghi Effendi



Arise to further My Cause, and to exalt My Word amongst men. We are with you at all times, and shall strengthen you through the power of truth. We are truly almighty.

-Baha'u'llah

"You shall in truth, become lighted torches of the globe. Fear not, neither be dismayed, for your light shall penetrate the densest darkness. This is the promise of God, which I give unto you. Rise! And serve the power of God!"

- Victory promises

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Day 14

"The Hosts of the Supreme Concourse are in martial array, poised between Earth and Heaven, ready to rush to the assistance of those who arise to teach the Faith. If one seeks the confirmations of the Holy Spirit, they can find it in rich abundance in the Teaching Field. The world is seeking as never before, and if the Friends will arise with new determination, fully consecrated to the noble task ahead of them victory will be won for the Glorious Faith of God."

- Shoghi Effendi

"The greatest glory and honour which can come to an individual is to bring the light of guidance to some new soul. The quickening power of the Holy Spirit, which has come into the world through Bahá'u'lláh, is the source of immortal life; and those who are quickened by this spirit in this world will find themselves in great honour and glory in the next world. The most meritorious service which anyone can render is to bring the light of divine guidance and the quickening power of the spirit to an entirely new area.... this is the hour for the quickening of the world."

-Shoghi Effendi

Day 15

"...He fully realizes that the demands made upon the Bahá'ís are great, and that they often feel inadequate, tired and perhaps frightened in the face of the tasks that confront them. This is only natural. On the other hand, they must realize that the power of God can

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"The Hosts of the Supreme Concourse are in martial array, poised between Earth and Heaven, ready to rush to the assistance of those who arise to teach the Faith. If one seeks the confirmations of the Holy Spirit, they can find it in rich abundance in the Teaching Field. The world is seeking as never before, and if the Friends will arise with new determination, fully consecrated to the noble task ahead of them victory will be won for the Glorious Faith of God."

-Shoghi Effendi

"And now you, if you act in accordance with the teachings of Baha'u'llah, may rest assured that you will be aided and confirmed. In all affairs you undertake, you will be rendered victorious, and all the inhabitants of the earth cannot withstand you. You are the conquerors because the power of the Holy Spirit is your assistant."

-Shoghi Effendi

"The greatest glory and honour which can come to an individual is to bring the light of guidance to some new soul. The quickening power of the Holy Spirit, which has come into the world through Bahá'u'lláh, is the source of immortal life; and those who are quickened by this spirit in this world will find themselves in great honour and glory in the next world. The most meritorious service which anyone can render is to bring the light of divine guidance and the quickening power of the spirit to an entirely new area.... this is the hour for the quickening of the world."

-Shoghi Effendi

Day 15

"...He fully realizes that the demands made upon the Bahá'ís are great, and that they often feel inadequate, tired and perhaps frightened in the face of the tasks that confront them. This is only natural. On the other hand, they must realize that the power of God can

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